Libby - Press

Hello Visitor! | Log In or Register

Place An Ad LAT Store Jobs Cars Real Estate Rentals More Classifieds

Los Angeles Times



LOCAL U.S. WORLD BUSINESS SPORTS ENTERTAINMENT HEALTH LIVING TRAVEL OPINION MORE

WASHINGTON

D.C. NOW

TOP OF THE TICKET

SCIENCE & ENVIRONMENT

EPA and Montana environmental officials say that because of

"What we want to do on the ground will effectively break the

exposure pathway," said EPA spokesman Ted Linnert. "It can be the most toxic thing on earth, but no one can be exposed to

But the asbestos isn't gone. It lingers behind kitchen walls in the modest houses lining Libby's quiet back streets, just

beneath the surface of backyards, at the town park, where a small "No Trespassing" sign is all that separates a picnic area

It's also in the trees - tens of thousands of acres of ponderosa pine, larch and lodgepole pine that blanket the surrounding

their efforts, the air in Libby and the surrounding area is

OBITUARIES

IN THE NEWS: LAKERS | DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL | JOE SESTAK | SOUTH KOREA | GULF OIL SPILL | PAKISTAN ATTACKS



Asbestos' death toll climbs in scenic Montana town as EPA struggles with vast cleanup effort

🖾 E-mail 🦳 Print

cleaner today.

it."

previous 1 2 3 | single page

RELATED













See more photos »

ADS BY GOOGLE

1 Tip for a Flat Belly: Cut down 3 lbs Belly Fat every week just by using this 1 Weird Old

More Patients Less Pain You Focus on patient health, We **Focus on Bringing More Patients**

www.TheDietSolutionProgram.com

» Don't miss a thing. Get breaking news alerts delivered to

mountain landscape. Logging was long the community's

shuttered in 2006 after the forestry industry contracted.

lifeblood, centered at the 1,200-worker Stimson mill,

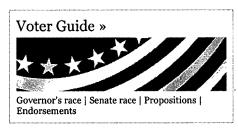
Loggers who worked the area when the mine and mill were active tell stories of dust plumes rising from felled trees. Over time, scientists say, countless asbestos fibers buried themselves in the bark.

Along the BNSF railroad line - used to ship vermiculite in open ore cars to Grace processing plants across the country - University of Montana researchers have tallied trees with 19 million fibers per gram of bark. One tree close to the mine has more than 500 million fibers per gram.

from contaminated ground.

Still, when asbestos worries first arose, Grace workers who eventually became sick were among the company's fiercest defenders.

City Councilman D.C. Orr, who worked as a contractor at the mine for almost two decades, recalls joining with others at the mine to eat raw vermiculite as a way to mock the health concerns raised by activists like Benefield.



advertisement



The Latest | NEWS AS IT HAPPENS

Ford might consider dropping Mercury brand - L.A. Times - Business 05/28/2010. 12:00 a.m.

Detecting a crime before it happens - L.A. Times -Home & Garden 05/28/2010. 12:00 a.m.

California drivers don't need to go without auto insurance - L.A. Times - Business 05/28/2010, 12:00 a.m.

Ford might consider dropping Mercury brand - L.A. Times - Business 05/28/2010, 12:00 a.m.

Southern California gas prices drop 7 cents a gallon in time for Memorial Day weekend travel - L.A. Times - Business 05/28/2010. 12:00 a.m.